A Second Complaint:

BEING

An Honest Letter

TO

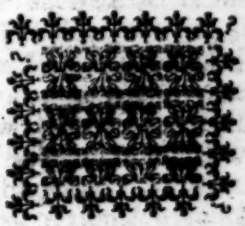
A DOVBTFVLL FRIEND,

ABOUT

The rifling of the Twentieth

part of his Estate.

R., T.



Reade and burne.

MDCXLIII.

[illegible]

To his much esteemed friend and Kinsman Sir H. W. at his house in Westminster.

SIR,

THe indisposition of my body hath confined me to my Chamber, we must now therefore discourse by letters; your Petition for peace I see is not so happy as to finde successe in Parliament, at which while I wondred I began to consider the reasons, which are divers as the persons opposing it. Therefore you must first observe the opposors; and then the reasons will be evident. It is not fit the Houses of Parliament should deny the obedient Citizens of London any thing, for that may bee distastefull to the City; nor yet grant the Request of the Petition; for that may be distructive to the Profit of many Members of both Houses, and to some even of the City it selfe. It was therefore wisely done of my abortive Lord Major and his Zealous Sectaries to attempt the strangling of it in the birth, by committing some that were active about it; the Reasons are Reformation of Religion, that is, abolishing the Booke of *Comman-Prayer* as Popish, though justified by the *Compasers Martyrdome* under the popish tyranny, but that will make way for their new Doctrines and extemporary bablings, next the dissolving of Bishopricks and Deanries will repay the money lent upon publique faith, for advancing the Lords warre, (for so they miscall treason) & to conclude, that being *the Lords debt*, it is fittest to be paid out of the Lords inheritance, then Bishops being eradicated, Elders may grow up and flourish as in *Scotland* dayes. And is is Considerable, that the estates of Malignants, will be just rewards for the godly laborers in this harvest, all which wil be lost by a beggarly accommodation.

Touching the Houses of Parliament which consists of about 140. Lords, and 500. Commoners, of which not a fift part do attend in their severall Houses, some being voted out,

others committed for not conforming their Conſciences to the ſence of the Houſe, and very many, diſliking the proceedings and tumults, left the Houſe and repayred to the King, with whom a greater part I am ſure is then attend both Houſes, being come to preſerve their oathes of Allegiance which is perſonall to the King.

Take (Sir) but a view of ſuch as ſit and act the buſineſſe in the Houſes of Parliament, obſerve who among them have Commands and places of profit in and about this warre, then examine their ſmall eſtate, with the great debt and charge, the rich profit of their command with their poor Revenew. You may find the Earles of *Northumberland*, *Pembrook*, *Rutland*, *Salisbury*, *Holland*, ſitting in the Lords Houſe; and in the Houſe of Commons Sir *Edward Hales*, Sir *George Stonehouſe*, Sir *Alexander Denton*, M. *Edw. Waller*, M. *Maynard*, M. *Thomas Cooke*, Sir *Thomas Hutchinſon*, M. *Philips*, M. *Ellis*, and others, all voting for Peace, to preſerve the eſtates they have, not find them in the liſt of Officers to get maintenance. All men know my miſled Lord of *Eſſex* loſt the beſt of his eſtate in loſt *Ireland*, and his whole debt, and great Accompt to his Nephew *Shirley* is to be paid out of a ſmall Remainder, hath not my Lord of *Warwick* fould all he can, but yet his creditors take new promiſes for old debts, though he be reſponſall for 400000. pound *prout per accompt*? are the Lords of *Peterborough*, *Stamford*, *Say*, and *Brook*, neceſſitous? their debts and charge preſſing? then their commands are double; both Horſe and Foot. The Lords *Haſtings*, *Rachford*, *Wharton*, Sir *John Mandevill*, *Feelding*, *Gray* of *Grooby*, Sir *Hugh Chamley*, Sir *Samuell Luke*, Sir *John Merrick*, Maſter *Nathaniel Fines*, Maſt. *Martin*, Maſt. *Wingat*, Maſt. *Walton*, Maſt. *Cromwell*, Colonell *Venne*, M. *John More*, and others, are men whoſe credit (as appears by Scrivenors bookes) is as great as their eſtates, not invited to Commands by the profit of the places, but by their Conſcientious zeale to the Cauſe, others of the Houſes (leaſt

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any water ſhould runne beſide their mill) preferre their Sonnes, Brothers, and neere Friends, to places and imployments of profit about this warre, as *M. Pym* his ſonne *Alexander*, Sir *H. Mildemay* his brother *Anthony*, my Lord *Say* his ſon *Iohn*, and others other friends, while ſome men of the Houſe have confeſt that the pay made them undertake the cauſe, and which of all theſe, have Sir *Iohn Merrick*, knowes ought of his place but the profit? Nay, many of them for the better ſervice fight by their Lieutenants, as they pay debts by their ſureties, and how many of them, ſave two or three which are taken priſoners, received a wound, or ſtruck one blow in the late battels of *Edge hil* and *Branceford*, what hopes then that theſe men wil give their Votes and 12. or 1500. *l. per ann.* for a barren peace? will my Lord *Major* ſubſcribe a Petition that ſhall take away his toll, 12. d. for Paſſes out of *London*? or Colonel *Manwering*, the craſed *Mercer*, Captain *Baſſe*, the Lace-man, Captain *Maſon*, the Button maker, Captaine *Witherly*, the Pewterer, Captaine *Capcate* the Broaker, Captaine *Lee* the Vintner, with the Cunnyskin Captaine in Southwark, and divers other Debt-compounding-Citizens, their pay and proteſtions againſt Creditors, and leave themſelves nought but a Gaole to live in? What can you hope for by your Petition that theſe men, and the like, can hinder?

Now ſurveigh the Popiſh and beggerly Lords and Cavaliers for and about the King, as the Duke of *Richmond*, the *Marqueſſe Hartford*, Earles of *Cumberland*, *Darby*, *Lindſey*, *Bath*, *Dorſet*, *Bridgwater*, *Denby*, *Leiceſter*, *Devonſhire*, *North-Hampton*, *Cheſterfield*, *Briſtoll*, *Weſtmerland*, *Barkſhire*, *Newcaſtle*, *Carnarvon*, *Kingſton* and *Thanet*. The Lords *Mowbray*, *Mountague* of *Baughton*, *Daincourt*, *Shandoys*, *Spencer*, *Gray*, *Mohume*, *Dunſmore*, *Newarke*, *Seymore*, *Capell*, and others: Then of the Houſe of Commons, Sir *Chriſto. Hatten*, Sir *Iarvas Cliſton*, Sir *Guy Palmes*, Sir *Iames Thinn*, Mr. *Iames Coventry*, Mr. *Henry* and *Iohn Bellaſſey*, Sir *Thomas Fanſhaw*, Sir *Richard Lewſon*, Sir *Thomas Danby*, Sir *Iohn Packington*, Sir *Ric. Lee*, Sir

Charles

Charles le Grosse, Master *Catline*, Mr. *Holborne*, Mr. *Bridgeman*, Mr. *Chadwell*, Sr *John Stangmayes* & his sonne, Mr. *John Digby*, Sir *Edw. Deering*, Sir *William Widdrington*, Master *Venables*, Baron of *Kinnerton*, Mr. *Rogers*, Mr. *Newport*, Sir *Edward Alford*, Mr. *Whitmore*, Mr. *Chitchley*, Mr. *Edgcome*, Sir *John Stawell*, Mr. *Crooke*, Mr. *Nowell*, Mr. *Sutton*, Sir *Will. Ogle*, Sir *Wil. Poole*, & one hundred more then my paper will hold, men of understanding and known integrity, & which of all these whose age & health would permit, adventured not their lives and estates in this war with the King? Now let us examine their Religion, you shall finde them daily at Sermons and Service with the King, hearing and practising the same Protestant Religion and Liturgie, that saved our Fathers, and hath beene in our Church ever since the Reformation, and which we have vowed by the late Protestation to maintain, then (no doubt) neither the King nor they are likely to bring in Popery, nor bee Separatists.

That they are men of Estates the Counties that elected them (if not the Kingdom) knows, and which of them hath any profit by the warre? which of them goes not himselfe and servants to the warre at his own charge? Nay, which of them have not otherwise in a large manner contributed to the maintenance of the Kings Army, and that without any Commands of an Ordinance; yea, even against the Declaration of the House? what would they and others then have done, had an Order of the House directed it as on the other side? By this then you see they are neither Popishly nor beggarly; nor can have any reward or hopes of repaire out of the estates of the adverse party.

But they would induce arbitrary government: I pray what proofe is there of that? what one act hath the King done since the Commence of the Parliament that savours of arbitrary justice? whom he hath distrained, committed, or turned out of the Towne for not lending? Nay, what hath hee not done to assure us the contrary? Reade His Declarations

ons, observe his regall promises and Protestations, and then tell me what Christian (that hath charity) or what man (that would be beleeved) will not beleeve him? Hath he not regulated the Councell Table? damned the Sipwrits? suppresst the high-Commission and Martiall Court? Nay, hath he not left all things to be tryed by strict proceedings of Law?

Whom can arbitrary justice more prejudice, then those now about and with the King? the Rich and wealthy men? surely then they will not be a meanes to induce that Law that shall undoe, & inslave them, their children, families, & estates. Yet must we lend money, send horses, and raise Arms against these popish and beggarly Cavalliers. For it is not against the King, that were Treason, and breach of our late Protestation, which is to defend his Majesty, yet was the Kings Person in danger at *Edge Hill* Battle, when the undistinguishing shot tooke some persons about the King, but God did then, and I hope always will cover his head in the day of Battel.

Upon these considerations, Sir, I cannot beleeve or feare the reducement of popery or arbitrary Justice; nor thinke my conscience, person, or estate, tyed by the necessitous Ordinance of both Houses (for want of an act of Parliament) to pay, or let the twentieth part of my estate (which you know may come to three or foure hundred pound) be taken to support a war, wherein the person of the King (which God forbid) may be hurt.

I am sure that while God promised the Scepter to *Juda*, he put the Law-giver between his feet, to let us know, That the legislative power is neither above or without the King. And I know the King by His Writs, doth call them to advise with him, not to resolve without him. I will therefore keepe my hands from giving, and so preserve my conscience; I will fast bolt my doores, and so preserve my person and estate untill a stronger then I come. For I had rather others committed trespasse in taking, then I treason in giving. And I am sure that both Armies are not on the right side, but one, with all their

their voluntary maintainers and abetters, must, without Gods infinite mercie be guilty of the blood of all the men slaine on either side. I shall therefore, for my particular beleeve and follow the rule of the Apostle, to *obey the King, for Hee is set over us by God*, rather then runne with the new opinions and contrary doctrine of our militant Evangelists, Dr. *Burges*, Dr *Downing*, Mr *Marshall*, and *Sedgwicke*, whose consciences start out of the way at an white Surplesse, but never boggle at garments *rolled in blood*. There are other things considerable with us Citizens also, as the returne of Sir *Faithfull Fortescue*, Lieutenant Colonell *Wagstaffe* and my Lds *Essex* favourite, Captain *Serimpsham*, unto the King, next the danger and jealousie we are in, that even some of the great ones will follow, (for these are but harbengers,) and rather then come empty handed to their King, will make us their peace offering.

Let us consider the event of war, wherein we can yet boast nothing but our successe at *Winchester*. But had wee had the day at *Edge hill*, and totally routed the Cavalliers, would that have determined the warre? I feare rather have called in all the Monarches of Christendome, to maintain Monarchie, and then were we engaged like the Low Countries, in perpetuall blood. How great then is our straight, for if we succeede wee undoe our selves. If the King by victory (or treachery of our Commanders) the labour is saved us then, for having refused his mercie, we must expect his justice.

I have now, Sir, unbosomed my self to you my friend, let therefore my errors finde a friendly reproof, rectifying my mistakes by your advice, which I shall take as Commands, returne you the thankfull acknowledgement of

Read and burne.

Your friend and Kinsman,
T. K.

Milkestreete London, 18. December. 1642.